

Max's Market Stall: A Decimal Challenge

Learning objective: To read, write, order and compare numbers with up to three decimal places and solve problems involving money.

Help Max the monkey calculate the costs at the community fruit market. Read the passage carefully and use your knowledge of place value to solve the problems below.

Max is organising a charity fruit stall to raise money for the local library. He has priced his items carefully to ensure every penny counts. A single organic apple costs £0.45. A punnet of blueberries is priced at £1.25. Max also sells jars of local honey for £3.75 each. Today, a customer bought three apples, two punnets of blueberries, and one jar of honey. Max needs to ensure his records are accurate to the nearest tenth of a pound for his accounting ledger.

Word bank: decimal point · tenths · hundredths · thousandths · place value · equivalent · currency

1. Calculate the total cost of the customer's purchase. Show your working out clearly. (2 marks)

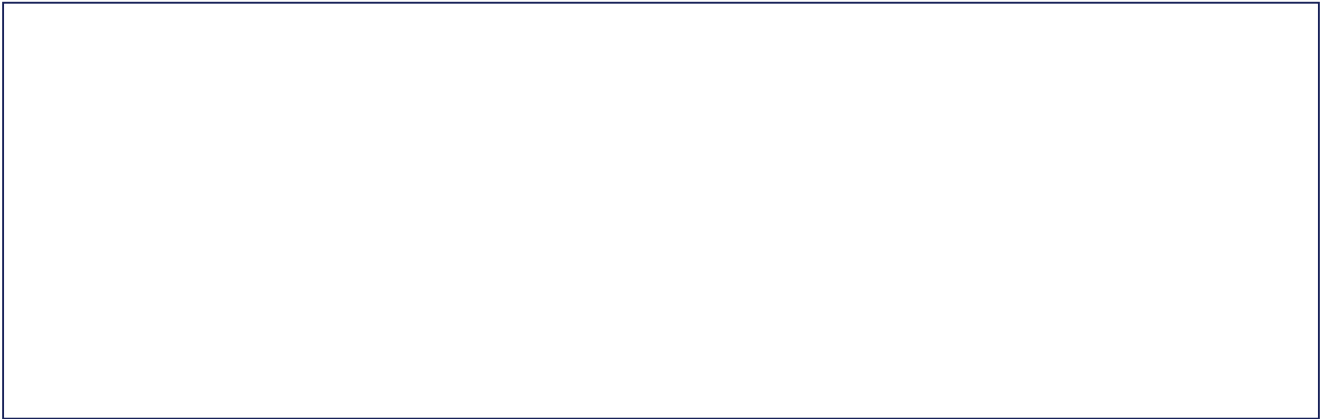
2. Max finds a rare 'Giant Strawberry' that weighs 0.125kg. Explain why this number has a digit in the thousandths column. (2 marks)

3. Compare the cost of one apple (£0.45) and one jar of honey (£3.75). Justify which item is more expensive using your knowledge of place value. (3 marks)

4. If Max decides to put a '10% discount' on the blueberries, the new price becomes £1.125. Why is it impossible for Max to charge this exact amount in our current UK currency? (2 marks)

5. What might happen if Max accidentally recorded the price of an apple as £4.50 instead of £0.45? Explain the impact on his final profit total. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a display of Max's fruit stall, labelling the items with their decimal prices and showing a sign that displays the total cost of the customer's order.



Extension challenge: Design a new pricing list for Max that includes at least five items with prices containing three decimal places (e.g., £1.299). Write a paragraph explaining why shopkeepers usually round these prices to the nearest penny (the hundredths place) for their customers.